Statement

PATTERN OF SUBSIDY UNDER IRDP W.E.F. 30TH APRIL, 1993

Category	Percentage ceiling	Monetary Ceiling
Small Farmars	25	Rs.4000/— in normal areas and Rs.5000/— in Drought prone Areas programme and Desert Development programme ereas.
Marginal Farmers/ Agriculture Labourers, Non-. Agriculturel Labourers and Rural Artisans	33.33	Rs.4000/— in normal areas and Rs.5000/— in Drought prone Area programme and Desert Development programme Areas.
OF THESE (a) Scheduled Tribes (b) Scheduled Castes (c) Physically Handicapped	50%	Rs.6000/—

No monetary ceilings are applicable for individual minor irrigation projects nder IRDP. For community minor irrigation projects more than 50% of the landholders in the Ayacut should be IRDP small and marginal farmers and they should own not less than 25% of the land. Cost apportion-able for group members will be in proportion to their land as a percentage of total land in the Ayacut. Of this cost each IRDP family will get 50% subsidy. No monetary ceilings are applicable on the amount of subsidy in such cases also.

Central Assistance to drought Affected States

113. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will -the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have released any aids, under special grants from the Central funds for the States hit by drought;

(b) if so, the States which will be benefited under special drought relief aids ;

(c) whether these will be additional aids to states from the Central Government other than every budgetary assistance; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Higher Sale Prices of Agriculture Commodities through NAFED

114. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing sale prices of various agricultural commodities e.g. Rice, Pulses, Spices ; Dry Fruits ; Edible Oil etc. sold through NAFED are higher than that of the Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any case of irregularity in the supply, sale and purchase of items through NAFED has come to the notice of Government during the last three years ;

(d) if so, the corrective measures taken/ proposed to be taken by Government for the effective functioning of NAFED for the benefit of consumers ; and

te) the criteria adopted by the Super Bazar for purchase of commodities from NAFED indicating on what rates and the details of tenders and mode of payment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) NAFED is primarily engaged in the task of promoting and developing marketing of agricultural produce to protect the interest of

farmers. However, it has also been arrang- ' ing disposal of various commodities in wholesale and consumer distribution activities on modest scale through its 5 retail outlets in Delhi, to meet the needs of employees at large, unlike Super Bazar and I Kendriya Bhandar which have chains of retail outlets. The sale rates of most of the items being retailed for NAFED are either at par or lower than those of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar. However, in a few commodities, its rates are marginally higher on account of quality, cost of procurement and locality considerations etc.

(c) and (d) During 1991 it came to the nolice of Government that NAFED was marketing rice in packets without date of packing and maximum selling price on it. NAFED was. therefore, advised to indicate the same on the packets and it started implementing the practice.

(e) Tenders for purchase of various commodities are floated by Super Bazar on fortnightly basis in which NAFED also participates like any other supplier. The lowest tenderer is allowed to supply the goods at their godown on FOR basis. Payment to the supplier is made by cheque on fortnightly/Monthly basis.

Crops Damaged in Haryana by Locust Swarm

115. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the locust-storm coming from Pakistan has invaded Sirsa District of Haryana damaging the crops :

(b) what measures were taken to drive away the locust storm; and

(c) what is the extent of damage that has been caused to the crops and whether Government has any proposal to compensate the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TF1E MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) One small pink locust swarm coming from Pakistan escaped to Sirsa District of Haryana on 7th October, 1993. The swarm settled on the tree tops and as such there was no damage to the crops.

(b) The locus swarm was effectively
neutralised within two days.

The following measures were taken to control the swarm :

(i) Deployment of special survey and control teams.

(ii) Mobilisation of pesticides and plant protection equipment for controlling locust.

(iii) Deployment of aircraft for aerial spraying of pesticides.

(iv) Coordination with the State Government in controlling locust.

(c) In view of the answer to the part (a), the question does not arise.

Development of Inland Fish Farming and Marketing in Karnataka

116. SHRl B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government has submitted a proposal for development of the infrastructure for inland fish farming and marketing ;

(b) whether as per the State Governmnet's proposal, the Centre would reimburse 50 per cent of the subsidy being taken by the State to fish farmers ; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider decentralising the functioning of the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries and delegate more powers to the States for development of minor fishing harbours and landing Centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No proposal has been received from the State Government of Karnataka